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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroto Yoshii

Serial No. : 10/081,554

For : PROBE DESIGNING METHOD AND INFORMATION
PROCESSING APPARATUS

Filed : February 22, 2002

Examiner : Unassigned

Art Unit : 1645

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 21, line 3 and ending at page 21, line 16 as follows:

- Fig. 10 is a flow chart showing details of the probe evaluation process (step S104) and the probe set selecting process (step S105) of this embodiment. In step S201, as described above, probe candidates are narrowed down to fewer probe candidates on the discrimination tree by the number of bases (node depth) or by the melting temperature based on a base sequence. In step S202, the entropy is calculated by equation (1) for each node, on a path on the tree, of each probe candidate obtained by the narrowing, and stored in that node. In step S203, evaluation values are calculated by using the evaluation